



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND

ATLANTIC

6506 HAMPTON BLVD
NORFOLK VA 23508-1278

8/31/05 -02442

TELEPHONE NO:

IN REPLY REFER TO:

August 31, 2005

Mr. Daniel Rodriguez
Remedial Program Manager
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Vieques Office Park
Carr. 200, Km 0.4
Vieques, PR 00765-1537

Re: *Revised Draft Final Work Plan and Sampling and Analysis Plan, Soil Inorganics Background Investigation, Former Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Facility, Vieques Island, Puerto Rico*

Dear Mr. Rodriguez:

On March 31, 2005, the Navy submitted the *Revised Draft Final Work Plan and Sampling and Analysis Plan, Soil Inorganics Background Investigation, Former Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Facility, Vieques Island, Puerto Rico* to EPA and other stakeholder agencies. On April 15, 2005, EPA issued a press release notifying the public of a 60 day comment period (specifically stated to be from April 14 through June 15, 2005). The press release further stated that all comments should be submitted to you no later than June 11, 2005.

On June 7, 2005, you informed the Navy of your intention to prepare preliminary responses to the public comments and submit them to the Navy by July 15, 2005, with a common (EPA and Navy) stated desire for the Navy to begin the background investigation by August 1, 2005. As you are aware, funding to conduct the background investigation was allocated and staffing schedules coordinated to conduct this work in accordance with this schedule. However, to date, the Navy has not received your preliminary responses, which has resulted in the need to re-coordinate staffing schedules and potentially conduct the background investigation in a separate mobilization from the other field activities scheduled for this year, both of which may result in schedule coordination difficulties and increased costs to the project. The Navy requests that you abide by schedules mutually agreed upon with the Navy, because unplanned deviations from these schedules may have substantial impacts on project conduct, both from staffing and funding perspectives.

Please respond to this letter with the date by which you will submit EPA's preliminary responses to the public comments for the Navy's consideration.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (757) 322-4815.

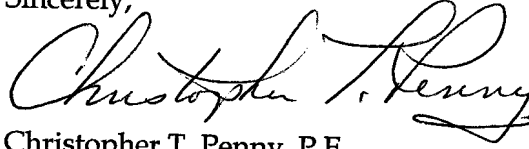
Quality Performance ... Quality Results

Mr. Daniel Rodriguez

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Christopher T. Penny". The signature is fluid and stylized, with the first and last names being more prominent than the middle initial.

Christopher T. Penny, P.E.

Eastern Vieques Project Coordinator

Environmental Programs Branch (Caribbean Section)

Environmental Division

By direction of the Commander

cc: USEPA (Mr. Carl Soderberg)
PREQB (Sra. Yarissa Martinez)
DOI (Ms. Susan Silander, Messrs. Oscar Diaz and Bud Oliveira)
NAVFAC Atlantic (Messrs. Byron Brant and Jeffrey Harlow)
CH2M HILL (Messrs. John Tomik and Brett Doerr)